Direct Flight fom Gulf countries to Trivandrum

t*41.SHRI N.E.BALARAM.SHRI M.M.JACOB:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Airport Authority has agreed to hand over Trivandrum Aiport to International Airport Authority of India; il so, by when it is likely to be handed over; and

(b) whether Government have received any requests from any airline of Gulf countires to opeate direct flights to Trivandrum; if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Government have declacd Trivandrum airport to be an intenational airport with effect from 1 January, 1991 under the International Airports Authority Act, 1971.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government of the Sultanate of Oman has requested Gulf Air operation to Trivandrum. Talks are scheduled with the Government of Oman in this regard in the last week of January, 1991.

Review of the New Education Policy

*42. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENF be pleased to state:

(a) when was a decision taken to review the new Education Policy and what are the reasons therefor;

tThe sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Monday, the 31st December, 1990 was concluded. Answers to questions put down in the lists of that day were laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday The 2nd January, 1991.

(b) whether modalities have been de vised for reviewing the same; and

(c) what pogress has so far been made in this regard?

THE MINISTEk OF HUMAN RE SOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE): (a) and (b). On 7-5-90, the Government set up a Committee to review the National Policy on Education, 1986. A copy of the Government Resolution which contains necessary details in this regard is attach ed. *See* below).

(c) The Committee has submitted its report on 26-12-1990.

RESOLUTION

Subject: Appointment of a Committee to review the National Policy on Education, 1986.

Despite efforts at social and economic development since attainment of Indepen-dence, a majority of our people continue to remain deorived of education, which is one of the basic needs for human development. It is also a matter of grave concern that our people comprise 50 per cent °f the world's illiterate, and large sections of children have to go without acceotable level of primary education. Government accords the highest priority to duoation—both as a human right and as the means for bringing, about a transformation towards a more a humane and enlightened society. There is need to make education an effective instrument for securing a status of equality for women, and persons belonging to the backward classes and minorities. Moreover, it is essential to give a work and employment orientation to education and to exclude from it the elitist aberrations which have become the glaring characteristic of the educational scene. Educational institutions are increasingly being influenced by casteism, communalism and obscurantism and it is necessary to lay special emphasis on struggle against this phenomenon and to move towards a genuinely egalitarian and secular social order. The National Policy on Education, 1986(NPE), neeeds to be reviewed to